

Demonstration of Ability to Function in Emergency Situations

NEP Cellcorp, Inc. ("NEP"), having ceased providing retail commercial mobile services as of October 16, 2015, was granted its request to relinquish its ETC status on February 17, 2016 (Order, DA 16-166). Its operating licenses were transferred to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC on February 11, 2016 (ULS File No. 0006811616).

For the relevant period, NEP hereby certifies that it was able to remain functional in emergency situations. Specifically, in order to be designated as an ETC, an applicant must demonstrate it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.¹ During the relevant period, NEP was able to remain functional and provide service in emergency situations. For example, NEP had an unlimited amount of back-up power to provide continuous service in case of an emergency. Specifically, NEP provided at least 8 hours of back-up battery power at every site and NEP used portable generators to provide continuous backup power. Five sites had fixed generators installed providing continuous power to supply customers with quality services during power outages. NEP also installed a new licensed microwave network with a ring configuration allowing for greater reliability of backhaul services. Further, NEP relied on its affiliate—The North-Eastern Pennsylvania Telephone Company—to handle excess traffic in the case of an emergency.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2).